GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3177
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
AVAILABILITY OF GOOD QUALITY PALM FRUITS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is vast availability of good quality palm fruits in India mainly in Bihar, Assam, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government have undertaken any research work especially in these States to extract more palm oil;

(c) if so, the details of the research work undertaken in these States to make country self- reliant in edible oil;

(d) the total palm oil produced during the last three years; and

(e) the total plan outlay approved for research work and assistance provided to States of Andhra Pradesh Pradesh and Assam in extracting more palm oil?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): There is vast availability of good quality palm fruits in Assam, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. However, oil palm cultivation has not been recommended for Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

(b): Research work related to oil palm is carried out through the State Agricultural Universities, Agriculture/Horticulture Departments of the states and National Research Centrefor oil Palm, Pedavegi (Andhra Pradesh).Research is being undertaken on Development of improved varieties/hybrids of palm oil. The Regional Research Laboratory (RRL).Trivandrum is also carrying out research on development of efficient technologies for oil extraction.

(c): Research is being done by Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) on development of improved varieties/hybrids of edible oilseeds namely sesamum, niger, sunflower, safflower, groundnut, rapeseed-mustard and soyabean and development crop production and crop protection technologies.

(d): The total palm oil produced in India during the last three years is about 55,000 MTs.

(e): An amount of Rs.3420.50 lakhs and Rs.44.57 lakhs has been provided to the States ofAndhra Pradesh and Assam respectively, during the Ninth Five Year Plan under Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP).